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The size of the animalcule is about the 1-5th of a line in diameter. It appears to be permanently fixed to the positions in which it is found. When disturbed, it folds up its oral cup like an umbrella and retracts it within the body. By means of it, it catches its prey, which consists of smaller animalcules. From the stomach of one individual I squeezed out as many as fifty of the latter.

For the genus and species the name *Dictyophora vorax* is proposed.

December 15th, 1857.

Vice-President BRIDGES in the Chair.

A paper was presented for publication in the Proceedings, entitled "Prodromus Descriptionis Animalium Invertebratorum quæ in Expeditione ad Oceanum Pacificum Septentrionalem a Republicâ Federatâ missâ, Cadwalladéro Ringgold et Johanne Rodgers ducibus, observavit et descripsit W. Stimpson, Pars Tertia," which was referred to a Committee.

Mr. Lea exhibited the plates accompanying his paper, recently presented to the Academy, on fresh water Naiades collected in Siam, &c., by Dr. House, at the suggestion of Mr. Haines and others of New York. Several of the specimens are very similar to our own species from the valley of the Ohio. A specimen from Australia much resembles the *U. Hopetonensis*, Lea, from Southern Georgia.

December 22d, 1857.

Vice President BRIDGES in the Chair.

A paper was presented for publication in the Proceedings, entitled "Observations on a Group of Fossil Shells found in Tippah Co., Miss., with descriptions of fifty-five new species," by T. A. Conrad, which was referred to a Committee.

Mr. Lea stated, in presenting a specimen to the Academy, that he had visited the locality at Braintree, 10 miles south of Boston, where specimens of large *Trilobites* have been recently found. The attention of Prof. W. B. Rogers was called, some fifteen months since, to "this unique and most interesting locality," by Peter Wainwright, Esq., residing in the neighborhood. Mr. Lea agreed entirely with Prof. Rogers in placing this formation among the more ancient of the Paleozoic periods. It lies directly on the granite rocks, or rather it is squeezed in and is embraced by these rocks, (on the east and west sides,) which are disturbed by an upheaval. The formation here is about three hundred yards wide, and lies in a south-east direction. In examination of the quarry, Mr. Lea was kindly assisted by the owner, Mr. E. Hayward, who now carefully preserves the best specimens which are brought to light. He pointed out to Mr. Lea the parts of the quarry where most of the specimens were found, and where some impressions were still remaining in place on the surfaces of the stratification. These surfaces dipped to the south 68°. The rock consists of a very hard, gray, slaty sandstone, frequently breaking into irregular cross fractures. The *Trilobite* found here is of great interest. It belongs to the genus *Paradoxides*, and is no doubt the same as described by Prof. Green many years since, under the name of *P. Harlani*, of which there is a cast in the collection of the Academy, and which, on comparison with the specimen now presented, proves to be undoubtedly identical. Barande describes and figures several species of the genus *Paradoxides* from the lower Silurian of Bohemia, which are closely allied to this, and prove conclusively that the strata must be nearly if not precisely on the same horizon.

1857.]